



May 22, 2023

Secretary Frank LaRose, Chairman  
Ohio Ballot Board  
180 East Broad Street, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chairman LaRose:

Per the Ohio Ballot Board (“Board”) meeting on May 18, 2023, and pursuant to R.C. 3505.063, the undersigned members were designated to prepare the argument in favor of Senate Joint Resolution 2 (Constitutional Amendment: Require 60% vote to approve any constitutional amendment), which is to be considered at the August 8, 2023 Special Election.

We hereby submit to you, in your capacity as Ohio Secretary of State and as Chairman of the Board, the following in support of the Joint Resolution:

Vote **YES** on Issue 1

*Empower the People, Protect the Constitution*

A **YES** vote on Issue 1 protects our Constitution from deep-pocketed, out-of-state interests. By passing Issue 1, the People will ensure constitutional changes are widely accepted and declare that Ohio’s Constitution is not for sale.

Currently, special interests target Ohio, seeking to inject their own personal views and objectives into our state’s most sacred document. Why? Because Ohio is one of the few states that allow these interests to directly enshrine their social preferences and corporate motives into the Constitution at the same threshold as everyday laws. Common sense tells us that this should not be the case. Instead, our constitutional rights should be broadly supported and shielded from well-financed special interests.

Voting **YES** on Issue 1 strengthens our Constitution by:

- **Elevating the standard.** By raising the threshold for constitutional amendments to 60%, the People will ensure amendments have widespread support and tell special interests that our Constitution is not up for grabs. This will protect Ohio’s Constitution similar to the way the U.S. Constitution has been protected since our country’s founding.
- **Empowering people across Ohio.** By requiring signatures from voters in every county, special interests will no longer be able to cherry pick where they gather signatures. Instead, starting January 1, 2024, a diverse and representative population of Ohioans will determine whether proposed amendments appear on the ballot.
- **Eliminating second bites at the apple.** By restricting do-overs on signature submissions, starting January 1, 2024, special interests will have one chance to play by the rules when gathering signatures to place proposed amendments on the ballot.

We, the People, must have our voices heard on August 8th. Empower yourself and your fellow Ohioans. Protect the Constitution. Vote **YES** on Issue 1.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to prepare the argument for this important General Assembly-initiated ballot measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Stewart", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Representative Brian Stewart  
12th Ohio House District  
Ohio House of Representatives

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob McColley", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Senator Rob McColley  
1st Ohio Senate District  
Ohio Senate